

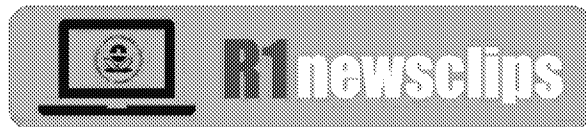
Message

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**From:** Bird, Patrick [Bird.Patrick@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 1/21/2022 2:45:47 PM  
**To:** Biton, Leiran [biton.leiran@epa.gov]; Brady, JenniferL [Brady.JenniferL@epa.gov]; Burke, Dan [Burke.Dan@epa.gov]; Isenberg, Madeline [Isenberg.Madeline@epa.gov]; Kilpatrick, Jessica [Kilpatrick.Jessica@epa.gov]; Kipka, Undine [kipka.undine@epa.gov]; Lancey, Susan [lancey.susan@epa.gov]; Benoit, Eugene [benoit.eugene@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** FW: News Clips for Friday, January 21, 2022

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**From:** Wintrob, Paul <Wintrob.Paul@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 21, 2022 9:45:42 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** R1 NewsClips <R1\_NewsClips@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** News Clips for Friday, January 21, 2022



Air - Permits; Energy | Climate Change | Climate Change; Water -  
Surface | Energy | Energy; Waste – Solid Waste Management | Waste – Food  
Recovery | Waste – Solid Waste Management | Water - Drinking | Water - Surface

## Air - Permits; Energy

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Federal regulators allow Weymouth compressor station to continue operating

Source The Boston Globe Online - Jan 20, 2022

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## Climate Change

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Set the underground rivers free

Source The Boston Globe Online - Jan 21, 2022

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Governor lays out climate change plan for Rhode Island

Source The Telegraph Online - Jan 20, 2022

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● A sharper focus on the issue of our time; To report on the most pressing issue of our time, the Globe's climate team is expanding and rethinking its coverage.

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Source The Boston Globe - Jan 20, 2022

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## Climate Change; Water - Surface

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Nuclear and fossil fuel advocates, wind foes among backers of right whale protection suits

Source Cape Cod Times Online - Jan 21, 2022

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● Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust buys 1,700 acres in Kennebago watershed

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Source Portland Press Herald - Jan 20, 2022

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## Energy

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Offshore wind leadership is Connecticut's to lose

Source Day Online - Jan 21, 2022

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● Construction to begin soon on new U.S. offshore wind farm off R.I. coast

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## Energy; Waste – Solid Waste Management

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Gas plant at Old Town landfill could heat 10,500 homes, but would require a new pipeline

Source Bangor Daily News Online - Jan 20, 2022

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## **Waste – Food Recovery**

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- Some states mandate food scrap recycling. In CT, some towns do it voluntarily.

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Source New Haven Register - Jan 20, 2022

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## **Waste – Solid Waste Management**

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Vermont breweries and cideries are collecting and reusing plastic carriers. Here's why.

Source Burlington Free Press Online - Jan 21, 2022

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## **Water - Drinking**

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With report of high levels of haloacetic acid, Housatonic residents' frustrations with the water company escalate

Source The Berkshire Eagle Online - Jan 20, 2022

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## **Water - Surface**

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- New Haven to get \$223 million to protect Long Wharf, deepen harbor

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**A sharper focus on the issue of our time; To report on the most pressing issue of our time, the Globe's climate team is expanding and rethinking its coverage.**

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**ABSTRACT**

To report on the most pressing issue of our time, the Globe's climate team is expanding and rethinking its coverage.

**BODY**

This is how long we have ignored warnings of a coming crisis:

It's been more than half a century since a presidential panel under Lyndon Johnson found that fossil fuel **emissions** could be warming the Earth.

It's been 40 years since the National Academies of Sciences published a massive landmark study with similar conclusions.

And it's been three decades — the span of an entire generation — since a NASA scientist named James Hansen sat before Congress and testified that human-caused global warming was not only real but "already happening now."

Last year's forest fires, fatal heat waves, and biblically catastrophic downpours are testament to what we have failed to do with all that time.

Now we stand on the cusp of too late — and must decide how to respond.

At The Boston Globe, we view this moment as historic and one that demands intensive journalistic scrutiny. The decisions made by elected officials, business leaders, and private citizens in coming years will reverberate for centuries. So will the work of scientists and researchers.

That is especially true here, in our state and region. Some of the best minds and institutions at work on the climate problem are here. Also, **Massachusetts** has set some of the most ambitious climate goals in the country. Other states, even other countries, will be watching to see if we can achieve them.

For those reasons, the Globe is expanding and rethinking its climate coverage. We have created a climate team, composed of three journalists already in the newsroom and two newly created positions. And we have launched a mandate to incorporate the implications of a changing climate and the urgency of addressing it across our newsroom.

Here are some foundations of our coverage going forward:

We won't debate the reality of **climate change** or its cause. That debate is settled.

We will shine light on the challenges of radically reducing **carbon**, illuminate paths toward solutions, and hold to account the private interests and elected leaders responsible for getting us there.

Our coverage will be intensively local. The tepid agreement settled on in Glasgow last fall underscores the need for local action. States like **Massachusetts** and cities like Boston must pave a way, even if national and international solutions falter.

The changing climate as well as the radical changes we must make to forestall it could inflict damage on some communities more than others, most particularly those that are already marginalized. Our journalism will seek to highlight such injustices.

To help call attention to our expanded coverage, we have created a label for our climate stories, "Into the Red: Climate and the fight of our lives."

We believe the climate challenge can be met. Doing so will ask something of all of us. We believe the only path forward is one with our hardest problems brought into the open for vigorous public debate. That is journalism's highest calling, and on this critical subject, one with the highest possible stakes.

We hope you will join us in this new effort. Look out for our expanded climate journalism. Visit the "Into the Red" page to see our coverage all in one place. Watch for upcoming Globe-sponsored discussions with leaders and key players in the climate fight.

If you're interested in hearing from us about important stories or events, give us your e-mail address at <https://mailchi.mp/bostonglobe.com/climate-list>. Or, if you'd just like to tell us your ideas on what needs covering, drop us a note at <https://www.bostonglobe.com/2021/11/01/science/what-would-you-like-see-globes-climate-change-coverage-send-us-your-ideas/>.

Thank you for your care and attention. We believe the time for action is now, and that together we can make a difference.

Steven Wilmsen can be reached at [steven.wilmsen@globe.com](mailto:steven.wilmsen@globe.com) Follow him on Twitter @swilmsen.

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**Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust buys 1,700 acres in Kennebagowatershed**

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## FULL TEXT

RANGELEY -- Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust has purchased 1,731 acres of 'incredible' forest, shorefront and wetlands in the Kennebago watershed, which is home to some of the finest wild brook trout habitat in the U.S., the group said.

The land includes 2 miles of undeveloped shorefront on Little Kennebago Lake and 9 miles of frontage on the upper Kennebago River, according to a news release from the organization.

The newly acquired tract includes the inlet of Little Kennebago Lake, which angling writer Ray Bergman featured in his 1938 classic "Trout."

It is also vital habitat for songbirds and mammals, said Shelby Rousseau, deputy director and director of stewardship at the trust.

"The ecological and biological significance of this region is just incredible," Rousseau said. "I'm really proud to be part of this, that's for sure. I've been with the organization for 25 years, and, wow, this is probably one of the most exciting projects that I've been involved in."

The acquisition is part of a larger project to permanently protect more than 10,000 acres of the Kennebago River headwaters north of Rangeley.

In November, Black Brook, a partner organization, bought more than 3,000 acres of adjacent land.

"This part that we just closed on is like the core of it all, because it represents so much," Rousseau said. "It's got the river, it's got the lake, it's got the trout habitats, it's got wetlands, it's part of the North American flyway zone. It's not populated, but yet it's accessible to the public."

The trust will begin negotiations to purchase an additional 5,000 acres of working forest in the region next week, she said. According to the news release, the trust intends to manage this parcel with a focus on increasing **carbon** storage and sequestration - processes which are critical for mitigating **climate change** - while sustainably harvesting timber.

The trust is financing the project with a mix of federal, state and private funds, but fundraising for the Kennebago headwaters project is still ongoing, Rousseau said. The most recent land purchase was made with a loan from the Conservation Fund, which they will need to pay back.

"Efforts to conserve the Kennebago headwaters have been years in the making," said trust Executive Director David Miller. "Knowing how important this area is to the nation's angling heritage, the ecology of the western **Maine** mountains, and the Rangeley community, we're especially excited to see our project surging ahead."

According to Rousseau, the trust has wanted to conserve land in the Kennebago headwaters for years, but it was only about a year and a half ago that it began to consider purchasing land.

The public will be able to use these properties for hiking, fishing, boating, hunting and trapping.

"It's going to be the same as always," Rousseau said. "We're not improving access, we're not decreasing access."

Little Kennebago Lake is a 40-minute drive from Rangeley, 90 minutes from Farmington and just over two hours from Lewiston.

According to the Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust website, the organization has conserved 14,000 acres of land in the Rangeley Lakes region, including 50 miles of lake and river frontage, 15 islands and Bald Mountain.

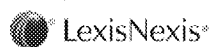
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## Construction to begin soon on new U.S. offshore wind farm off R.I. coast

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Construction will soon begin on the second commercial- scale, offshore wind energy project to gain approval in the United States, the developers said.

The U.S. Department of the Interior approved it in November, and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management issued its approval letter for the constructions and operations plan Tuesday, a major step in the federal process before construction can start.

Orsted, a Danish energy company, is developing the South Fork Wind project with utility Eversource off the coasts of New York and **Rhode Island**.

They now expect the work onshore to begin by early February and offshore next year for as many as 12 turbines.

President Joe Biden has set a goal to install 30 gigawatts of offshore **wind power** by 2030, generating enough electricity to power more than 10 million homes. In November, work began on the first commercial- scale offshore wind farm in the United States, the Vineyard Wind 1 project off the coast of **Massachusetts**.

Those developments, along with last week's announcement that the Biden administration will hold its first offshore wind auction next month, show there's a lot of excitement and progress in the U.S. offshore wind industry, said David Hardy, CEO of Orsted Offshore North America.

The auction is for nearly 500,000 acres off the coast of New York and New Jersey for wind

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energy projects that could produce enough electricity to power nearly 2 million homes.

"There's a lot of activity, at the same time it's still a nascent industry," Hardy said Tuesday. "So there are still a lot of unknowns and a lot of risk, quite frankly, to getting this started and getting it right and in achieving the full opportunities of the industry." The offshore wind industry is far more advanced in Europe, where the first offshore wind farm opened in 1991, Hardy added.

"We're jumping in and leveraging what they've started," he said. "And I like to say that we don't plan to play catch-up for long. We may be behind for awhile on the volume, but we can bring U.S. innovation and U.S. technology to this industry, and hopefully be able to export that in the relatively near term."

Eversource President and CEO Joe Nolan said the introduction of the offshore wind supply chain in the United States will create jobs, revitalize dormant ports and displace fossil fuels by providing a clean, **carbon**-free energy source.

The first U.S. offshore wind farm opened off **Rhode Island's** Block Island in late 2016. But at five turbines, it's not commercial scale. Orsted acquired the developer, **Rhode Island**-based Deepwater Wind, and now operates that wind farm.

Some commercial fishing groups have complained that wind projects off the East Coast could interfere with efforts to catch seafood species such as scallops, clams and sea bass.

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## **Some states mandate food scrap recycling. In CT, some towns do it voluntarily.**

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FULL TEXT

In what one official called the biggest change to waste management since the advent of mass **recycling** in the 1980s, Californians have started separating food scraps from other household waste, on the heels of a similar law that recently took effect in **Vermont**.

In **Connecticut**, some municipalities are doing it on their own.

Passed in 2016, the California law is intended to divert food scraps into composting

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facilities that capture methane gas, before it can escape into the atmosphere as organic waste decays. Studies show methane has exponentially greater impact as a greenhouse gas than other pollutants like **carbon** dioxide.

More Business

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Officials: 2 **CT** businesses told to halt deceptive COVID practices

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NBC Sports will broadcast winter Olympics from **Connecticut** studio

The vast majority of household waste in **Connecticut** is burned to produce electricity, but environmental advocates say keeping food out of the garbage will go a long way toward reducing **pollution** and ash produced by those incinerators. In **Connecticut**, organic waste makes up about one of every five pounds of garbage, according to a 2015 study published by the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

The DEEP-led **Connecticut** Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management has made food waste one of its four major early initiatives, along with intensified **recycling**; charging businesses and households on a "pay as you throw" model; and finding ways to encourage manufacturers to include the cost of **recycling** and waste when pricing products for sale.

DEEP has also earmarked a number of grants to municipalities and other organizations for pilot projects to divert food waste to commercial composting facilities.

**Connecticut** has commercial composting facilities in New Milford, Southington, Ellington and Thompson, which combined are permitted to process about 375,000 tons of agricultural waste and food scraps annually. Several more operate statewide under temporary permits from DEEP adding about 40,000 tons of aggregate capacity each year, with another in the planning stages for North Haven at 75,000 tons.

Blue Earth Compost claims is the largest collector of diverted organic waste in **Connecticut**. Launched eight years ago out of a hatchback auto, the company now hauls as much as 35 tons or more of organic waste weekly, according to Samuel King, who spoke last spring to CCSMM members.

"Environmentalism and **sustainability** are only really going to get full-scale, cultural acceptance if we're able to build accessibility into it — and part of that is cost," King said during an online CCSMM forum in April. "We need to make sure we're offering these services at a price that reflects what should be done, rather than what could be done."

In 2011, **Connecticut** became the first state to pass a law for mandatory composting for commercial food sellers that produce at least a ton of organic waste weekly on average, with exemptions for those located more than 20 miles from a commercial composting facility. Last year, the state doubled that range to bring more big food producers within the orbit of composting facilities.

Many **Connecticut** towns have collection sites for food scraps — one in Greenwich was taking in a ton weekly just months after its debut — but those programs are voluntary.

Real Estate Guide

Your guide to finding a house or apartment in **Connecticut**

Our easy-to-use guide will help you navigate some of the most popular housing markets in **CT**.

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After 'disturbance,' police tape blocks off front of Milford pizzeria

2.

New East Haven drink shop is shaking things up, and customers love the 'vibe'

3.

New Haven police Officer Diane Gonzalez laid to rest: 'Truly the best of us'

4.

Former **CT** DPH commissioner suspended from public health role in Florida

5.

New Branford business to showcase only local products — and goats

6.

Former school employee sues East Haven Board of Education over alleged discrimination

7.

Live updates: After snow, crews clearing roads in **CT**

The founder of Waste Free Greenwich estimates that 4 percent of town residents are dropping off organic waste today for composting, adding up to about 55 tons to date.

"Obviously, the tonnage would be magnified with a mandate like California or **Vermont**," Julie DesChamps, founder of Waste Free Greenwich, said in an email.

"There is currently no incentive to reduce waste and increase food scrap **recycling**, and the tonnages and costs of waste management reflect that. Yet, many residents who voluntarily participate recognize the economic and environmental benefits of food scrap **recycling**. They notice how much goes into the bin and how much their trash has been cut — in some instances by half. They then take measures to prevent waste in the first place."

An organizer of a Darien food scrap collection program noted that it is a learning process for participants, some of whom drop off scraps in non-biodegradable plastic bags.

"Most of the general population just doesn't really think that much about municipal solid waste," Carlyn Bayne, of the Darien Advisory Committee on **Sustainability**, said during the CCSMM forum last spring. "The issue is getting them to recognize the benefits — and

then encouraging them to make this change."

Staff writers Luther Turmelle and Ken Borsuk contributed to this report.

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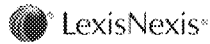
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## New Haven to get \$223 million to protect Long Wharf, deepen harbor

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### FULL TEXT

NEW HAVEN — The city will receive federal money for two large projects in and around New Haven Harbor, U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro, D-3, announced.

The largest amount, \$160.3 million, will help to protect Long Wharf from flooding because of large storms and **climate change**. The city also will receive \$63 million to complete the project by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to dredge and widen the harbor's shipping channel to make it more navigable by large ships.

Mayor Justin Elicker said both projects require "a lot of planning and work" and "one of the reasons we were successful is because New Haven was already planning to respond to sea level rise and coastal events and was ready when the funding became available."

The Long Wharf protection plan is "a resilience project," city Engineer Giovanni Zinn said. The project will "protect the assets in the Long Wharf, the highway and the rail yard. I-95 and the Northeast Corridor are of national importance and I think this is a recognition on the part of the Army Corps and the federal government of their importance."

Interstate 95 is the primary barrier to flooding from the harbor, but the project will add a flood wall from the nature preserve in the southwest to beyond the Canal Dock Boathouse. There also will be five floodgates at the three I-95 underpasses and the exit and entrance ramps, Zinn said. The project also adds a pump station "to deal with any water that gets behind the wall."

"If you have an event where you have a storm surge in the harbor, the rain can't get out because it's a gravity system" and the water level in the harbor is too high, Zinn said. Long Wharf can see storm surges of 10 to 12 feet, he said.

"Over the last decade, the catastrophic flooding in **Connecticut's** coastal areas have upended lives, destroyed homes and businesses, and completely reshaped the shoreline," DeLauro, chairwoman of the House Appropriations Committee, said in a release.

"There is very little we can do to prevent natural disasters from occurring, but we can — and must — be proactive about preparing for them and minimizing the damage," she said. She said the project will create construction jobs and save on cleanup costs and losses from water damage.

Everything you need to know about skiing the Northeast this winter

Whether you want to stay close to home or head north, here's everything you need to know about skiing or snowboarding in the Northeast and New York this season.

Most Popular

1.

After 'disturbance,' police tape blocks off front of Milford pizzeria

2.

New East Haven drink shop is shaking things up, and customers love the 'vibe'

3.

New Haven police Officer Diane Gonzalez laid to rest: 'Truly the best of us'

4.

Former **CT**DPH commissioner suspended from public health role in Florida

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Former school employee sues East Haven Board of Education over alleged discrimination

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Live updates: After snow, crews clearing roads in **CT**

The New Haven Harbor project will deepen the channel 5 feet to a total of 40 feet, and widen the channel and turning basin so larger ships can dock at the New Haven Terminal without having to lighten their load outside the breakwater.

More News

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Hamden residents ask for better town response to icy roads as more snow blankets area

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Feds: Hamden man sentenced for role in drug ring

The channel is 500 feet wide in the outer harbor, 400 feet wide in the inner harbor and 800 feet wide along the terminals, according to the Army Corps. "The dredge material is going to be used to create a tidal marsh of the West Haven coast. There will be environmental benefits to that," Elicker said.

The Army Corps proposal included using the dredge material to fill a "borrow pit" off the city's East Shore that was created when fill was needed to build I-95 in the 1950s, as well as one near the West River.

"This federal funding is a game-changer," DeLauro said in a release. "This project will increase the navigation efficiency and safety of the New Haven Harbor. It will create good-paying jobs for longshoremen, truck drivers, warehousemen and construction workers and strengthen **Connecticut's** supply chain."

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<https://earthjustice.org/news/press/2022/epa-sued-over-pfas-secrecy-reporting-loopholes>

# EPA sued over PFAS “secrecy” reporting loopholes

Companies and military bases keep their PFAS pollution secret thanks to EPA-created loopholes

## CONTACTS

[Erin Fitzgerald](#), Earthjustice Press Secretary

[Legal document](#)

WASHINGTON, D.C. —

Today, three national advocacy organizations represented by Earthjustice, sued the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in federal court to force the agency to close illegal loopholes that let chemical plants and military bases across the United States avoid disclosing their PFAS emissions into the environment during manufacturing or use of these cancer-causing chemicals.

Under Congress's 2020 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), PFAS manufacturers and polluters must report on nearly 200 PFAS they manufacture, use or release. The information is compiled by EPA in a public database called the Toxics Release Inventory, or TRI. But due to recently created EPA loopholes, chemical companies and the military can keep the PFAS they produce or dump in the environment secret.

"Thanks to EPA's loopholes, communities, scientists and lawmakers don't know which PFAS are being used, in what amounts, or to what extent companies are dumping PFAS in our air or water," said **Laurene Allen, a National PFAS Contamination Coalition leadership team spokesperson**, and resident of Merrimack, New Hampshire, where known PFAS-polluter Saint Gobain Performance Plastics operates a major facility. "PFAS remain largely unregulated, so communities depend on accurate reporting to figure out how to advocate for themselves. EPA must close these loopholes immediately and force companies to accurately disclose their PFAS pollution."

An Earthjustice review of the first data from TRI reports for PFAS, found that entities are either underreporting or not disclosing how they use or dump PFAS in the United States. For example, major PFAS polluters like the Department of Defense, and Saint Gobain Performance Plastics, did not report anything on the TRI. Also, only 39 facilities reported that they produced or processed more than 100 pounds of PFAS in 2020 — a number inexplicably low given the large volume of PFAS manufactured, imported, and used in the country. In addition, nearly half of the facilities that reported having manufactured, processed, or used PFAS in 2020, said that they did not release *any* PFAS into the environment.

EPA-created loopholes allow chemical companies and military agencies to avoid reporting their PFAS use and pollution if they release less than 500 pounds, and produced up to 1 million pounds of PFAS. EPA also allows secrecy if companies are mixing PFAS with other chemicals, even if dumping in air or water takes place.

“PFAS,” which stands for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, are a class of thousands of chemicals that can persist in human bodies and in the environment for decades. Studies show PFAS are linked to cancer, immune system dysfunction, liver and kidney damage. More than 95% of the U.S. population has PFAS in their bodies, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Chemicals in this class of more than 5,000 substances are found in products like nonstick pans, food packaging, waterproof jackets, and carpets to repel water, grease, and stains. They’re also used in firefighting foam often used on military bases and at commercial airports. Even personal care products like waterproof makeup, dental floss, sunscreen, shampoo, and shaving cream contain PFAS.

In October of 2021, EPA unveiled a roadmap to study and to some extent, regulate PFAS.

Earthjustice is filing this lawsuit on behalf of the National PFAS Contamination Coalition, Sierra Club, and the Union of Concerned Scientists.

## QUOTES FROM LEADING ATTORNEY AND CLIENTS:

“Families across the country have a right to know if a nearby chemical plant, or a military base, is dumping PFAS in the air or water,” said **Eve Gartner, Earthjustice managing attorney**. “PFAS are extremely toxic. They are linked to cancer, yet EPA is allowing secrecy loopholes to protect polluters. This must stop.”

“Millions of Americans are exposed to PFAS every day,” said **Anita Desikan, senior analyst at the Center for Science and Democracy at the Union of Concerned Scientists**. “Communities, scientists and lawmakers need accurate data for safety, investigation and policy development.”

“For decades, people in New Jersey have been exposed to toxic PFAS chemicals in their air and drinking water. This is extremely concerning because PFAS are so toxic that a very low dose can cause significant health effects,” said **Anjuli Ramos, director of the Sierra Club, New Jersey Chapter**. “EPA’s TRI reporting thresholds do not work when it comes to the evaluation and understanding of PFAS in the environment. Since states like New Jersey have limited regulatory

authority to require companies to report their use and release of PFAS chemicals, the public counts on EPA to ensure the TRI accurately reflects all PFAS emissions for every company.”